

CLAIMS:

1. An apparatus for acting on an optical path (32), comprising:

an at least partly opaque or non-transmissive lever (22), and

a bearing fulcrum (20) about which at least a part (26) of the lever (22) is
5 slewable at least partly in and out of the optical path (32) by the use of a
 piezo-electric force.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a piezo-electric element (10) to exert the piezo-electric force on one end
(28) of the lever (22).
- 10 3. The apparatus of claim 2,

 wherein the lever (22) comprises a first lever arm (24) on one side of the
 fulcrum (20) and a second lever arm (26) on the other side of the fulcrum
 (20),

 the piezo-electric element (10) being connected to an end (28) of the first
15 lever arm (24) remote of the fulcrum (20).
4. The apparatus of claim 3,

 wherein the piezo-electric element (10) comprises an end (11) being at
 least partly articulated in a seat (30) in the first lever arm (24).
5. The apparatus of any one of the claims 2-4,
20 wherein the piezo-electric element (10) being of bimorph type.
6. The apparatus of any one of the claims 2-5,

 wherein the end (28) of the lever (22) being connected to one end (11) of
 the piezo-electric element (10) which is slewable whereas another end (9)
 of the piezo-electric element (10) is fixed relative to the apparatus (1).

7. The apparatus of any one of the claims 3-6,
wherein at least a part of the second lever arm (26) serves as the part of the lever (22) slewable at least partly in and out of the optical path (32).
8. The apparatus of any one the preceding claims, further comprising:
5 at least one catch in which the lever (22) can be separable locked in at least one predetermined position.
9. The apparatus of claim 8,
wherein two catches being positioned to be able to separable lock the lever (22) at least partly in and out of the optical path (32).
- 10 10. The apparatus of claim 9,
wherein the piezo-electric force of the piezo-electric element (10) being strong enough to release the lever (22) from each catch and to switch the lever (22) between the two catches.
11. The apparatus of any one of the claims 2-10, further comprising:
15 a measuring device for measuring the slewing angle (α) of the lever (22),
a comparator connected with the measuring device for comparing the measured value of the slewing angle (α) with a predetermined value of the slewing angle (α), and
a controller connected with the piezo-electric element (10) for adjusting the
20 piezo-electric force when the comparator has detected a difference between the measured value and the predetermined value of the slewing angle (α).
12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the measuring device comprises a wire-strain gauge bonded to the piezo-electric element (10).